

Abstract of the Disclosure

Video image data is commonly encoded using a video encoder operating under the control of a bit-rate controller where a plurality of encoding passes are performed so as to improve quality in each video frame. According to an embodiment of the present invention, a systematic review of the steps and sub-steps of the encoding passes is performed so as to identify those sub-steps which are necessary and those that are unnecessary to the execution of the encoding passes. Then, those steps identified as being necessary are executed during the encoding passes. Doing so reduces the amount of processor computation that is needed to perform a given number of encoding passes allowing the passes to be performed quicker or at a greater rate, thus improving quality.

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